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The undersigned certifies that this communication is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as prepaid first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 1450 on January 23, 2004.

Diane Dunn McKay

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of SAKAMOTO et al.

Serial No. 10/086,931

Filed: March 1, 2002

Title: METHOD FOR DISTILLING (METH)ACRYLIC ACID SOLUTION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Group Art Unit: 1764

Examiner: MANOHARAN, V.

## **AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 1.116**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 24, 2003, please amend the application as follows: